

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 141336Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2579

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMFAIRMED NAPLES

COMSUBGRU EIGHT NAPLES

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCUC, MARR, MPOL, IT

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POWER WARSHIP RELATED ISSUE

REF: ROME 11474

1. SINCE DISPATCH OF OUR TELEGRAM 11474, SEVERAL MISSION OFFICES HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS THAT MFA, IMOD, AND ITN HAVE AGREED ON COMMON APPROACH TO MINIMIZE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER 24-25 ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE. THEY INTEND: A) TO NOT RESPOND TO THEIR INVITATIONS UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE TO ARRANGE FOR EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE, AND B) TO INSTRUCT CMEN (THE MILITARY NUCLEAR AGENCY), CNEN (THE CIVILIAN BODY), AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO LIKEWISE NOT PARTICIPATE.

2. COMMENT: THE MFA, IMOD, ITN AND CMEN ARE, OF COURSE, SO ORGANIZED THAT ONE CAN SAFELY ASSUME NONE OF THEIR OFFICIALS WILL TAKE PART IN THE CONFERENCE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SUPERIOR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (WHICH IS UNDER THE NOMINAL CONTROL OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH) AND CNEN (WHICH IS AN INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BODY WITH STAFF MEMBERS FROM EVERY ITALIAN

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DENT REGULATORY BODY WITH STAFF MEMBERS FROM EVERY ITALIAN

POLITICAL FACTION) WILL HAVE GREATER DIFFICULTY ASSURING THAT "CONVINCED" EMPLOYEES NOT PARTICIPATE IN A MANNER THAT IMPLIES THEY ARE REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATION. THEREFORE EVEN WITHOUT "OFFICIAL" GOI PARTICIPATION, WE ARE FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE AND THAT CHARGES MAY STILL BE MADE WHICH COULD CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH GOI AND USN. END COMMENT.

3. NONETHELESS, OUT OF DEFERENCE TO GOI PLANS, MISSION NOW FEELS THAT CONSIDERATION OF ATTENDANCE BY WASHINGTON EXPERT (SEE PARA 4 OF REFTTEL) IS NO LONGER DESIRABLE. IF NO OBJECTIONS PERCEIVED BY ADDRESSEES, MISSION WOULD INSTEAD SEND DAO LOCAL EMPLOYEE TO CONFERENCE AS UNOFFICIAL OBSERVER.

4. COMMUNAL ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER IN LA MADDALENA IS LIKELY TO KEEP AREA IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS AUTUMN EVEN IF GOI ACTION SHOULD REDUCE IMPACT OF PLANNED ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE. MISSION THEREFORE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT A PROPERLY GUIDED ARTICLE COULD BE HELPFUL. VOLPE

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